

Serial No. 09/606,050

H-926

REMARKS

The Applicants' representative thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephone interview of September 9, 2003. The present Supplemental Reply has been prepared in accordance with that discussion.

During the interview, the Examiner advised the Applicants' representative to cancel and resubmit claims 2-4 as new claims containing the desired limitations, because claims 2-4 were improperly amended on the basis of a claim form that was different from that originally submitted. Thus, claims 2-4 are now represented as claims 14-16, with additional amendments made to independent claim 16 to improve its conformity with conventional U.S. claim form. Similar amendments have been made to independent claim 13.

During the interview, the Applicants' representative also advanced the patentable concept of claim 4 (now claim 16), in which a storage containing a backup copy of data is to be made to a backup device in a non-disruptive manner, in accordance with functions of receiving a volume split instruction from one of the servers connected to the storage area network, processing as if data in the primary volume of the storage were kept in a secondary volume thereof as it is at the time of receiving the volume split instruction, and making the backup copy from the secondary volume to the backup device. The Applicants' representative also emphasized the patentable

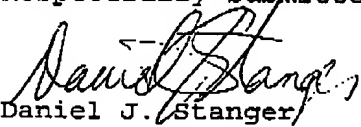
Serial No. 09/606,050

H-926

distinction of claim 13, in that the terminal connected to the local area network performs the various database management functions set forth in the claims.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicants' representative at the number below to discuss any aspect of this case.

Respectfully submitted,


Daniel J. Stanger
Registration No. 32,846
Attorney for Applicants

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C.
1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Telephone: (703) 684-1120
Facsimile: (703) 684-1157
Date: October 16, 2003

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

OCT 17 2003

OFFICIAL